

# How To Install Your New Slings

## **Important Disclaimer:**

**Over and Under** is not liable for any damages caused to sling frames or materials as a result of following the instructions detailed in this sling installation guide. The following is a generalized guide to installing the most common types of slings. Sling frame assemblies may vary from the ones described in this guide. Those using the information contained in this guide do so at their own discretion.

## **Step 1: Remove the frame rail end caps**

Your sling frame rail end caps can become dry and brittle from exposure to the sun and other outdoor elements. To avoid breaking, take extra care when removing the end caps from your sling frame rails. You should first check if they can be easily pulled off with your fingers. If they do not come off easily you can try to remove the end caps from the frame rail by gently prying them off using a flat head screwdriver.

## **Step 2: Remove your old slings**

The easiest method to remove an old patio furniture sling is to simply cut the sling material in two down the middle using a pair fabric scissors or a sharp blade.

## **Step 3: Remove the sling frame rail bolts**

Sling rails are usually attached to the frame using bolts on one or both sides of the sling. Before removing the bolts it is suggested that you mark the frames and rails using masking tape to keep track of which rail goes with which frame. Begin removing the bolts that are attaching the rails to the sling frame using a ratchet and the correct size fitting. Spraying the bolts with penetrating oil an hour or so before beginning to remove them will aid in loosening and breaking down any corrosion or rust on the bolts. Replace any bent, rusty or corroded bolts.

## **Step 4: Insert retaining rods into your new sling**

All of our custom patio slings are shipped with standard plastic retaining rods. The rods will be longer than the actual material itself. **DO NOT TRIM THE PLASTIC RODS** until you are completely done with the sling installation. The excess length of the retaining rod tends helps the sling slide through the rails easier during installation.

## **Step 5: Slide your new sling on to the frame rails**

Before proceeding, make sure your rails are on the correct sides of the frame and in the same position as they were before you removed them. Starting with the excess length of the retaining rod, begin to slide the sling fabric through the rails. Make sure the **Over And Under** tag is on the top or back part of your sling frame when you finish your installation as this can make a big difference depending on the width variations we were given when the sling was ordered.

### **Step 6: Insert the sling rails on the frame**

Line up the holes of the rails and tighten all of the bolts as much as possible using your fingers. Repeat this step for the other side of the chair frame. If you had any spacers or washers be sure to put them on when installing the bolts.

### **Step 7: Adjust the length of your new sling**

Beginning at the bottom or front of the sling frame, pull the sling material until it is flush with the end of the sling rails on both sides. Once the front of the sling material is aligned with the rails you can tighten the bottom or front bolts using a ratchet. This will hold the front or bottom of the sling material in place for the next step of stretching.

### **Step 8: Stretch your new sling and eliminate wrinkles**

Eliminate wrinkles left in the bending areas of the frame by stretching the sling material. It may help to use a pair of common clamps to hold the fabric down as it usually slips back down the sling rail before you get a chance to tighten the bolts. Position yourself on the side of the sling frame that hasn't been tightened yet and stretch the sling upward to the edge of the sling rail using a pair of pliers so that both the sling material and sling rails are even. You should now clamp the fabric down to the rail to maintain its position while you tighten the remaining bolts. The sling should now be stretched tight and free of most wrinkles. Some wrinkles may remain however these wrinkles should work themselves out after some use.

### **Step 9: Install frame rail spreader bars**

Some sling frames come with spreader bars on the back of the frame to help keep the sling stretched out. If your sling frame comes with spreader bars they must be reinstalled. Flip your frame over onto a towel or blanket to avoid scratching the arms of your chair frame or scraping and damaging your new patio sling. Try to install the spreader bar. If it is too long you can try to bend it on your knee just enough to allow it to fit into place. If the spreader bar cannot be bent you will need to use a spreader tool to spread the sling rails apart enough to allow you to slide the spreader bar into position.

### **Step 10: Finish up your new sling installation**

Using wire cutters or a pair of scissors, cut any excess length from the retaining rods install the end caps back into sling rails by tapping them in lightly and carefully using a soft rubber mallet.